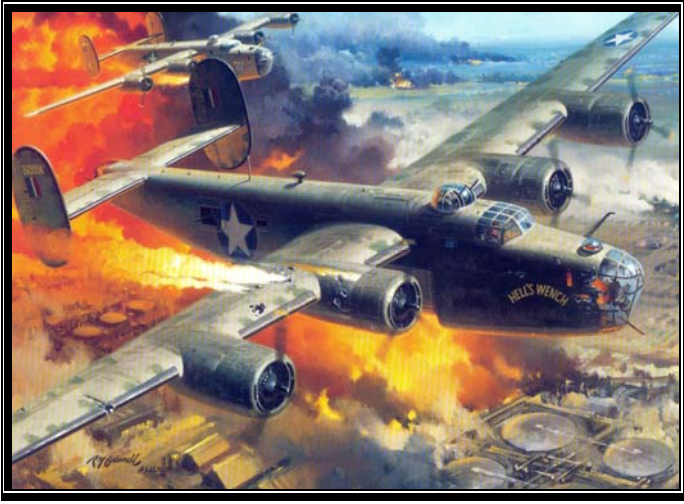




## History Fact Sheet



**Ploesti Raid 1943**

- ❖ On November 1, 1915, the Guard's first genuine aviation unit was established. That outfit, known today as the 102d Rescue Squadron, New York Air National Guard (ANG), is recognized as the ANG's oldest unit.
- ❖ During World War I, the few existing Guard air units were disbanded. Four former Guardsmen became aces and one Guard aviator was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously.
- ❖ During World War II, approximately 4,800 Guard aviation personnel in 29 observation squadrons were mobilized. They served in every major operation theater, primarily as individuals in wartime Army Air Forces units. One Guard flyer was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for his role at Ploesti. Two prewar Guardsmen became aces.
- ❖ The Air National Guard was established as a separate reserve component on 18 September 1947 when the Air Force was created.

- ❖ The ANG mobilized 45,594 Guardsmen in 66 of its flying squadrons, over 80 percent of its total force, during the Korean War. Four Air Guardsmen became aces.
- ❖ In 1968, 10,676 ANG personnel were called up in response to the North Korean seizure of the USS Pueblo and the Tet offensive in Vietnam. Four fighter squadrons were deployed to Vietnam and two were sent to Korea.



**Korea 1951**



**Katrina 2005**

- ❖ The Persian Gulf crisis of 1990-1991 saw 12,404 Air Guardsmen called into for federal service.
- ❖ The majority of aircraft that responded to the terrorist attacks on 9/11 belonged to the ANG.
- ❖ After Hurricanes Katrina, Wilma, and Rita, ANG volunteers flew 4,119 airlift sorties in relief efforts.
- ❖ Air Guardsmen continue to be heavily involved in homeland defense, wars in Afghanistan and Iraq plus other operations with the Active force while also supporting civil authorities.